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PATENTS

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.111 AND 1.143

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 11, 2002, applicants provisionally elect, without traverse, the subject matter of Group I, i.e., Claims 1-22, for continued prosecution in the above-identified patent application.

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Dated: April 10, 2002